

THE CROSSING

Roxbury Community College

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❖ ***Black Nativity at Roxbury Community College***

The National Center of Afro-American Artists and Roxbury Community College in association with Quincy Geneva Housing Corporation will present Black Nativity in the Media Arts Center Mainstage at RCC, 1234 Columbus Avenue. Black Nativity is the joyous account of an historic event that occurred 2,000 years ago. It's a celebration that tells the original story of the Nativity in scripture, verse, music, and dance. Based on the Gospel of St. Luke, combined with the poetry of Langston Hughes, this song-play touches a special chord in the hearts of all. This legendary Christmas event, the black community's Christmas gift to the world, is without a doubt a theatrical wonderment. A gifted company of singers, actors, dancers, and musicians deliver its powerful message of joy, hope, victory and liberation. Performance times are December 8th through December 10th at 8:00 p.m. with a matinee performance on December 10th at 3:30 p.m. For ticket information go to www.blacknativity.org or call 617.585.6366.

❖ ***Chuks Okoli Appointed Vice President of Administration and Finance***

Roxbury Community College President Terrence A. Gomes has appointed Chuks Okoli as Vice President for Administration and Finance. Mr. Okoli first came to RCC in 1997 as Manager of Grants and Vendor Contracts. In 2001 he became the College's Comptroller. Mr. Okoli, whose work has been described as "steadfast," assumed his new assignment on December 1, 2011.

❖ ***Fhynita Brinson Named Director of Talent Search Project***

Fhynita Brinson is the Director of Project GPS: Graduate, Perform, Succeed, RCC's new Talent Search initiative. According to its brochure, the Project "will target 500 students from designated Boston Public Schools to participate in the program." The main purpose of program is to "assist students in moving from middle school through high school and college to graduation by providing creative and engaging educational services, programs, and experiences." Ms. Brinson said that she "will be primarily responsible for the overall leadership and management of the Talent Search program." She added, "I will build relationships with leaders of the target schools as well as community organizations, in an effort to remove some of the barriers that impede the success of students as they journey through middle school, into high school, and enter and complete college." The Talent Search School Partners are the Lila Frederick Middle School, Brighton High, English High, Boston Adult Technical Academy, and New Mission High.

❖ ***Freddy Gonzales to Undertake Grueling Race to Benefit Others***

Freddy Gonzales, Director of Corporate and Community Education at Roxbury Community College, and his wife, Valerie, will drive a motorized rickshaw in a grueling 3,000 mile rally race across India to help raise money to support FRANK Water Projects (www.frankwater.com), a non-profit that funds sustainable clean water projects in developing countries across the world. The race begins on January 1, 2012 and ends on January 15th. As one of 40 teams participating in the race, Freddy and Valerie, according to a press release, expect to experience "some of the roughest terrain in India, which include desert, mountains, and jungle, where they are likely to encounter...elephants, tigers, poisonous snakes, rats, huge insects, and monkeys." You can support FRANK Water projects by ordering a T-shirt through Freddy and Valerie's Website (www.freddyandval.com), or by attending a fundraising event, organized by Freddy and Valerie, on Sunday, December 11th at the Precinct, in Union Square, Somerville from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All proceeds go to FRANK Water Projects and its effort to prevent the deaths of an estimated 4,000 children who perish daily "from a lack of clean drinking water."

Happy Holidays from the Marketing and Communications Department at Roxbury Community College!